

# How Duke, JILTED by American Heiress, RETALIATED



Miss Edythe Havemeyer.

**Philandering Lordling, Scorned by Miss Edythe Havemeyer, Seeks Revenge by Rushing Headlong Into Another Marriage.**

**T**HE spicy history of the amours of the House of Euston has prepared London society more or less for the romantic maneuvers of the present earl, last descendant of Charles II's "whitely wanton" Barbara Villiers.

The philandering adventures of the present lordling began with the first rumblings of battle when he announced that he was about to wed the American sugar king's millions by making Miss Edythe Havemeyer, of New York, his "war bride." Though of course he scarcely put it that way.

This was followed shortly afterward by a supplemental announcement that his engagement to the sugared gold had been broken almost at the altar. And now he has wed, instead, the Lady of Borthwick, widow of the twenty-first Baron Borthwick and daughter of Sir Mark John McTaggart Stewart, etc., a wealthy Scotchman.

No reason was given for his break from Miss Havemeyer, wherefore the expert whisperers of society immediately jumped to the conclusion that the blight which has been cast over the tainted Havemeyer millions was to blame. They pointed out that the earl is of a nervous and superstitious disposition and feared to ally himself with a family that has suffered the most amazing series of tragedies in modern history, even though Miss Havemeyer's great wealth was sadly needed to bolster his coffers.

This explanation, however, now goes by the board, and the Stars and Stripes once more float proudly over the Union Jack; for it is now made known that it was Miss Havemeyer and not the earl at all who declined at the eleventh hour to go to the altar. It is even said that the duke's quick marriage was made to pique Miss Havemeyer by way, as it were, of revenge.

This development is distinctly disconcerting to London's elite. It is annoying—really! A mere American girl scornful to be an English duchess? The idea!

London does not believe it. Of course the earl is in his late sixties, more than twice as old as Miss Havemeyer, which might be a reasonable motive for her taking such an unheard of course, if it were

not offset by his ranking third among the dukes at all royal functions. As the Duchess of Euston she would take precedence over all other American women who have married British dukes and would thereby have the "pas" of the Duchess of Marlborough, nee Consuelo Vanderbilt; the Duchess of Manchester, Helen Zimmerman; the Duchess of Roxburghe, May Goelet, and the Dowager Duchess of Manchester, Consuelo Yznaga de Valle. For, whereas these dukedoms date from the early part of the eighteenth century, that of Euston was created by Charles II, in 1675, in favor of his illegitimate son by the lovely "whitely wanton."

In sober truth, Miss Havemeyer's abandonment of the debonaire old earl broke off in its first flush what promised to be one of the most interesting of modern international alliances. To do the present Earl of Euston justice one must go back a few centuries to the reign of the merry monarch and his affairs with Barbara Villiers. This fascinating and versatile woman was, among some other famous beauties, a favorite of Charles, who had a munificent way with his loves, and created her the Duchess of Cleveland, and then married her to the Earl of Castlemaine shortly before her child was born.

From this time forward history chronicles no deliberate, cold-blooded campaign of subtle, feminine blandishment employed by a woman to influence a man that is at all in the running with the deportment of this remarkable woman to inveigle the merry monarch into creating his son a duke—which in due time came to pass. And so was founded the Earldom of Euston. And every succeeding earl from the first to the present one has been as gay a blade as his kingly ancestor.

Henry James Fitz Roy, uncle of the

present earl, was party to a romance that caused perhaps the deepest sensation in the high world of British royalty of any participated in by any other member of his ducal house. Kate Cook, or, more properly, Kitty Walsh, a beauty and a charmer, was the party of the second part. Kitty was the daughter of a London usurer, had been a circus girl, had played in burlesque, but was, when Fitz Roy met her, engaged in no calling which can be given a polite name.

In her own sphere she was the pre-eminent allurer, another "whitely wanton," and her charms made short shrift of the lordling. In the midst of a revelry one night he was married to her, and the British peerage faced the likelihood of having the circus girl and usurer's daughter third in its list of duchesses, for Fitz Roy was heir apparent to the title.

The charm net of his mesalliance held Fitz fast for several years. Finally, however, pressure from above forced him to come to life and he gave his wife \$50,000 to secure a divorce for him. She took the money, but obtained only a separation, and steadfastly refused for the rest of her life to divorce him. Both she and Fitz Roy died, however, before he succeeded to the title.

Though the fortune of the ducal house was founded by a Barbara Villiers, the motto of the family, curiously enough, is "Et decus et pretium recti" (the adornment and recompense of virtue). And to have this pass from one "whitely wanton" to another was the sardonic eventuality which fate for a long time seemed to have in store for it.

It was into this interesting family that Miss Havemeyer was to have married, and it was to this title, threatened by Kitty Cook, that she was to have succeeded. But woe! and alas! for the romance.

The horrors of the Havemeyers, to which society first ascribed her break from the earl, would fill a book. Miss Edythe was the niece of the great American sugar king, Henry O. Havemeyer,

who died in 1907, and who built up the huge refinery near New York which has been pouring millions ever since into the pockets of the family. But, although lucky in money making, he and his family have been unlucky in everything else. The series of tragedies which have come with the curse that hangs over the sugar millions is well nigh incredible.

The first of the evils that befell the family occurred after Henry O. Havemeyer divorced his first wife, who had been his sweetheart since boyhood, and married her niece and namesake. The first wife died of a broken heart.

Next, Henry Havemeyer, Jr., oldest son and principal heir of old H. O. Havemeyer, ran through his fortune and was killed mysteriously in Paris. It is believed that he was shot in a fight over

an actress, upon whom he had wasted most of his wealth.

Then George Havemeyer, the second and favorite son of the sugar king, was ground to death in the machinery at the sugar refinery.

The blight extends even to persons marrying into the Havemeyer family, however remotely. This is illustrated in the case of Clara Sutton Stevens, the actress, who was married to William Havemeyer, cousin and business associate of the sugar master. She divorced him almost immediately and was married to Jack Bloodgood, who died suddenly immediately afterward. She then became the bride of W. M. Laimbeer and shortly afterward killed herself. Laimbeer married again and was killed in an automobile accident in which his second wife was disfigured for life.

In the same year, 1913, Harry Blood-

good, brother-in-law of Clara Bloodgood, quarreled with his wife and attempted suicide; William F. Havemeyer died suddenly and mysteriously, and Teddy Havemeyer, son of the unhappy Charles Havemeyer, and Doris Bisham broke their engagement just before the wedding day.

Thomas Havemeyer, the third brother of H. O. Havemeyer, made a marriage which disgraced his family and estranged him until his death. Immediately afterward Theodore A. Havemeyer, the second brother of Henry O., died a disappointed man after spending more than half of his fortune in an unsuccessful effort to elect a president who would appoint him minister to Austria.

When Sarah Havemeyer, mother of the sugar king, died, Charles Havemeyer, her fourth son, long an outcast from the family, contested her will and fought his brothers in an action that was filled with the most sordid of scandals. Following this, Charles Havemeyer, son of Theodore and nephew of the sugar king, killed himself in his Long Island home.

In one year Mrs. John Mayer, who was Nathalie Havemeyer, oldest daughter of Theodore, committed suicide by shooting; two hours later her younger sister, Mrs. Cameron Winslow, gave birth to a daughter under the same roof; Mrs. Theodore Havemeyer, the widowed and broken-hearted mother, exiled herself in Austria, where she has since lived, and young Theodore Havemeyer was almost killed by his pony falling on him.

Next, Frederick Havemeyer, the fourth son of Theodore, married the divorced wife of William Travers, of Baltimore, and Travers committed suicide when told of the marriage. In the same month, Marie, a daughter of Theodore, divorced Perry Tiffany.

In 1912 officials of the sugar trust were indicted by the United States government for shortage in weight and conspiracy. Henry O. Havemeyer was blamed by the trust officials for all the wickedness uncovered, and Horace Havemeyer, his only remaining son, began a suit against the trust for \$10,000,000 in reprisal to clear his father's name.

Later in the same year Mrs. Fred Beach, the widow of Charles Havemeyer, was nearly murdered by one of her negro house servants at Aiken, S. C. Her throat was cut and the Jugular vein barely missed. Still later in the same year Mrs. Beekman Lorillard, connected by marriage with the Henry O. Havemeyers, killed herself by hanging.

Such are the high lights in the horrors of the Havemeyers. And perhaps it is just as well after all, says London, that the Earl of Euston found a "war bride" in his own country.



The Earl of Euston.



The Countess of Euston